(c) and (d) Final report of Govt. of India and WHO joint review is yet to be received.

Manufacture and sale of fake drugs

976. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that manufacture and sale of all fake drugs of well-known brands has become very common;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Drugs Control Department has shown their complete inability to handle the situation; and

(c) if so, how Government plan to stop manufacture and sale of fake drugs completely and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM): (a) It is not true that manufacture and sale of all fake drugs of well known brands has become very common in the country. As per the information available from the State Licensing Authorities, the reported incidence of spurious drugs during the period 1997-98 based on lab. Testing is only 0.5%.

Manufacture and sale of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity indulged in by unscrupulous persons making such medicines in unlicensed premises at more than one site. Such activities are unearthed and detected from time to time by the State Licensing Authorities with the help of police.

(b) and (c) Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules framed thereunder, the enforcement of quality control of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals is regulated by States through a system of licensing. The Drugs Control Officers draw drug samples from manufacturers, traders etc. and get their quality validated through their Govt. Labs. If a drug after testing is found not of standard quality, action is initiated by the State Licensing Authorities in terms of provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

The number of sample tested and those found spurious by the

Drugs Control Organisation in various parts of the country and the prosecution launched thereof are given in enclosed. Statements I and II.

Statement-I

Year	No. of samples			Percentage	
	Tested	Sub-standard	Spurious	S-Std.	Spurious
1995-96	32770	3490	100	10.64	0.30
1996-97	28887	2573	109	8.90	0.37
1997-98	25547	2491	132	9.75	0.51

Statement-II

Number of prosecutions launched cases decided; convicted with or without fine; fined only and acquitals during the period 1995-96; 1996-97 and 1997-98

Year	Number of				
	Procecution launched	Cases decided	Convicted with or without fine	Fined only	Acquitals
1995-96	683	248	247	181	67
1996-97	631	293	37	78	129
1997-98	504	156	82	25	56